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WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM,
RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA
AND RELATED INTOLERANCE

Preparatory Committee
Second session
Geneva, 21 May-1 June 2001
Item 6 of the provisional agenda

REVIEW OF REPORTS, STUDIES AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION FOR THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE AND THE WORLD CONFERENCE

Contribution of the twelfth meeting of chairpersons

Note by the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 2000/14 of 17 April 2000, the Commission on Human Rights invited United Nations bodies and mechanisms dealing with the question of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance to participate actively in the preparatory process of the World Conference (para. 66). The General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session also requested human rights mechanisms to assist the Preparatory Committee and to undertake reviews and submit recommendations concerning the World Conference and the participation therefore to the Preparatory Committee, through the Secretary-General, and to participate actively in the Conference (resolution 54/154, para. 37). Accordingly, a statement of the chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies, adopted at their 12th meeting in June 2000, is contained in the present document.

Annex

Statement by the chairpersons to the World Conference against Racism, Racism Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

The chairpersons of the human rights treat monitoring bodies reaffirm the important contribution that the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance can make to the eradication of these abhorrent phenomena and urge the World Conference to resolutely address them in all their forms. The treaty bodies, in their wide experience in examining these questions in countries from all regions of the world, have highlighted the tragic results that can eventually occur when societies tolerate such practices. They underscore the importance of a reaffirmation by the World Conference of international human rights standards and the role of the treaty bodies in continuously monitoring their implementation. The chairpersons thus call upon the World Conference to urge in the strongest possible terms the universal ratification of the international human rights treaties and to urge States to place the international standards at the centre of their efforts to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

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